

Message Text

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47

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-10 OMB-01 AID-05 /079 W

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O R 171146Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3002

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASY KABUL

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 7935

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IR, PK, IN, AF

SUBJECT: PAK-INDIAN-AFGHAN RELATIONS

REF: ISLAMABAD 7066

1. MFA UNDERSECRETARY NADIM SUMMONED DCM MORNING OF AUGUST 17 TO DISCUSS PAKISTAN-INDIAN-AFGHANISTAN RELATIONS. NADIM SAID THAT IRANIAN CHARGEIN ISLAMABAD HAD SEEN AGHA SHAHI, PAK SECRETARY FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS, WHO TOLD HIM THAT PAKISTAN WAS DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT INDIAN INTENTIONS TOWARD IT. SHAHI HAD SPECULATED THAT AN INDIAN FOREIGN ADVENTURE AGAINST PAKISTAN EITHER DIRECTLY OR IN CONCERT WITH AFGHANISTAN OR BY SUBVERSION WAS A LIKELY POSSIBILITY. THIS CONCLUSION WAS APPARENTLY BASED ON PAKISTAN'S ASSESSMENT OF DIFFICULTIES MRS. GANDHI IS HAVING INTERNALLY AND THE CONCLUSION THAT REFORMS SHE IS INTRODUCING TO IMPROVE THE ECONOMY ARE TOO LITTLE AND TOO LATE. ACCORDINGLY INDIA NEEDS A FOREIGN ADVENTURE TO DIVERT ITS PEOPLES' ATTENTION FROM THEIR DOMESTIC WOES.

2. PAKISTAN'S CONCERNS HAVE BEEN HEIGHTENED BY A RECENT CONVERSATION THE PAKISTANI AMBASSADOR TO AFGHANISTAN HAD

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WITH THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR IN KABUL IN WHICH THE LATTER

WAS ALLEGED TO HAVE TOLD THE PAKISTANI AMBASSADOR THAT PAKISTAN SHOULD GIVE UP SOME OF ITS TERRITORY TO AFGHANISTAN IN THE INTEREST OF PAKAFGAN HARMONY. IN THIS CONNECTION THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR ALLEGEDLY REFERRED TO THE DURAND LINE AS REMNANT OF COLONIALISM AND REFUSED TO ACKNOWLEDGE SOVIET RECOGNITION OF THE DURAND LINE AS THE LEGITIMATE BORDER BETWEEN PAKISTAN AND AFGHANISTAN. THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR WAS ALSO ALLEGED TO HAVE SAID THAT IF PAKISTAN DID NOT REACH AGREEMENT WITH AFGHANISTAN ON THIS ISSUE, "GOD KNOWS WHAT WILL HAPPEN." THIS EVENT APPARENTLY SO ALARMED PAKISTAN THAT IT IS (OR HAS) DISPATCHING ITS AMBASSADOR TO WASHINGTON, WHO IS PRESENTLY IN ISLAMABAD, BACK TO WASHINGTON TO APPRISE THE US OF THE MATTER AND TO ASK WHAT THE US INTENDS TO DO ABOUT IT.

3. NADIM SAID THAT THIS REPORT HAD BEEN SHOWN TO THE SHAH WHO INSTRUCTED THE FOREIGN OFFICE TO GET IN TOUCH WITH US AND ASK WHAT WE MADE OF THIS AND WHAT, IF ANYTHING, WE INTENDED TO DO ABOUT IT. HE WENT ON TO NOTE THAT IT WAS IRAN'S WELL KNOWN POSITION THAT IT COULD NOT STAND IDLY BY IF ANY ATTEMPT WAS MADE TO FURTHER DISMEMBER PAKISTAN. UNLIKE EVENTS WHICH RESULTED IN EAST PAKISTAN BEING SEPARATED FROM WEST PAKISTAN, THIS WOULD BE A MATTER OF THE MOST SERIOUS AND DIRECT CONCERN TO IRAN BECAUSE IT WOULD BE OCCURRING ON IRAN'S BORDERS.

4. WE NOTE FOREGOING IS LARGELY CONSISTENT WITH THEME AGHA SHAHI HAS BEEN PLAYING WITH OTHER FOREIGN MISSIONS AS REPORTED REFTEL. APPRECIATE GUIDANCE ON WHAT WE SHOULD SAY TO THE GOI IN RESPONSE TO ITS QUERY.
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